

the *Carly Ryan* foundation. APP FACTS

WHISPER



Whisper is a social anonymous confession application. It allows users to superimpose text over a picture in order to share their thoughts and feelings anonymously. However, you post anonymously, but it displays the area you are posting from. You can also search for users posting within a kilometre from you.

Anyone can post an anonymous message to the service in the form of an image with text overlaid on a picture. When the user opens the app, they will see six such images. Each one has a "secret" on it. The user can then respond to a message publicly or privately.

Users don't have a public identity in the app. While they do have persistent handles, there's no way to contact them except through the messages they post.

NOTE: Although Whisper is rated age 13+ on the developers website, it is actually 17+ on the Apple store.

Challenges

Due to the anonymity, kids are posting pics of other kids with derogatory text superimposed on the image. Also, users do not have to register to use Whisper and can use the app to communicate with other users nearby through GPS. Sexual predators use the app to locate kids and establish a relationship.

How do I block a user on whisper?

To block a user from within chat, tap on the ellipsis in the upper right corner and click the 'Block' icon. You can also block a user if you swipe left across a chat in the inbox screen and press Block.

How do I delete my Whisper account?

Unfortunately there is no quick way to delete your whisper account. This is the information about the process from the Whisper website. 'Upon your request, we can delete your account. You may make such request by emailing Support from the app. You can elect to delete all of

your Whisper content OR completely delete your account. **Note:** Completely deleting your Whisper account will prevent you from joining the Whisper community in the future on your device. You will only be able to browse content.'

Many whispers seem to be an attempt to get replies and likes (called 'hearts'). Talk about how to evaluate whether a user might be stretching the truth to get a response.

The images in Whisper could lead to some uncomfortable discussions about the sexualization of everyday topics.

The Carly Ryan Foundation does not recommend the use of Whisper for anyone under the age of 18.

App Fact Sheets available from the Carly Ryan Foundation. Please email: info@carlyryanfoundation.com

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